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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of:

Examiner: D. Crouch

Sargent, *et al.*

Art Unit: 1632

Serial No: 09/470,859

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Filed: December 23, 1999

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on: January 13, 2003

For: Production of Recombinant Organisms

Signed:

Wendy Wilson

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20631

Sir:

This is in response to the July 12, 2002 Office Action. A Petition for Extension of time for three months up to and including Monday, January 13, 2003, and the requisite fee are included. It is believed that no further fees are due at this time. However, should any deficiency or overcharge occur in this matter, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit or debit Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-68342-1/RFT/NBC/467135-154).

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In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-37 and 39. Please add the following new claims.

41. A method of altering a nucleic acid sequence of a mitochondria of a cell comprising: introducing into a cell a pair of single-stranded targeting polynucleotides, and a recombinase, wherein said targeting polynucleotides of said pair are substantially complementary to each other, and each comprise a homology clamp that substantially corresponds to or is substantially complementary to a predetermined nucleic acid sequence of said mitochondria, whereby said sequence is altered.

42. The method of claim 41 wherein said cell is a plant cell.

43. The method of claim 41 wherein said pair of single-stranded targeting polynucleotides, and a recombinase are introduced into said cell by biolistics.